Supply of PDS items at reasonable rates

2911. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether wheat, rice, sugar and other items are being supplied through PDS at the reasonable rate for the people below poverty line in the different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Wheat, rice, sugar and other items are being supplied through Public Distribution System (PDS) at reasonable rate for the people living below poverty line. The Central Issue Prices at which foodgrains are made available to the States for the BPL population are Rs. 415 per quintal for wheat and Rs. 565 per quintal for rice. The levy sugar under PDS to BPL families is being supplied at the retail issue price of Rs. 13.25 per kg. w.e.f. 1.3.2001.

(c) Does not arise.